

Intervention: Reach for Health Community Youth Service

Finding: Sufficient evidence for effectiveness

Potential partners to undertake the intervention:

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonprofits or local coalitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses or labor organizations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools or universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health care providers | <input type="checkbox"/> Local public health departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State public health departments | <input type="checkbox"/> Policymakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals, clinics or managed care organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Background on the intervention:

Reach for Health Community Youth Service combines a two-year, 40-lesson health promotion curriculum that includes sexual health information with three hours per week of community service. The program is intended for socially disadvantaged urban youth who are African American or Hispanic and are in seventh and eighth grades (middle school).

Findings from the systematic reviews:

Evaluation showed delay in initiation of sexual intercourse, an effect that continued through tenth grade. The program also reduced the frequency of sex and increased the use of condoms and other contraception among sexually active participants.

Limitations/Comments:

The program has been limited to urban, middle school, African American and Hispanic youth.

Additional information:

Education Development Center (EDC) - <http://www.edc.org>

Phone: (617) 969-7100

Fax: (617) 969-5979

References:

Alford, S. Science and Success: Sex education and other programs that work to prevent teen pregnancy, HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections; 2003. Available online at:
Advocates for Youth - <http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/ScienceSuccess.pdf>